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Important Information on Nursing Home Compare

Nursing Home Compare includes information only on nursing homes that are Medicare or Medicaid certified. These nursing homes provide skilled nursing care, however, there are many other types of facilities that provide various levels of health care and assistance with activities of daily living. Many of these facilities are licensed only at the state level. In addition, some nursing homes that provide a full range of care, including skilled nursing services, choose not to participate in Medicare or Medicaid. For information about any facility not found in this database, please contact your State survey agency. The phone number for the State survey agency in your area can be found in the [Helpful Contacts](#) section of this website.

Information on this website should not be construed as an endorsement or advertisement for any nursing home.

The Complete Nursing Home Inspection

The data on this website refers to the regulatory requirement that the nursing home failed to meet but does not reflect the entire inspection report (which, in some cases, may be well over 100 pages in length). The detailed inspection report (the form HCFA-2567) contains the specific findings that support the State's determination that the requirement was not met. A complete inspection report and the nursing home's corresponding plan of correction to address the deficiencies found during the inspection are available from the State survey agency or from the nursing home itself.

In addition, each nursing home that provides Medicare or Medicaid services is required to make the results of its last full inspection available onsite for public review. The phone number for the State survey agency in your area can be found in the [Helpful Contacts](#) section of this website.

The Results of the Nursing Home Inspection Report

CMS makes every attempt to ensure consistency among how the States report their findings. It is also important, while reading these results, to consider that the quality of a nursing home may improve or deteriorate significantly in a short period of time. These changes can occur when a nursing home's administrator or ownership changes or when a nursing home's financial health suddenly changes. We suggest contacting your ombudsman's office or your State survey agency for the most current information about a nursing home. The phone number for the State Survey Agency, or Ombudsman's office in your area can be found in the [Helpful Contacts](#) section of this website.

Finally, findings of inspections do not present a complete picture of the quality of care provided by the nursing home. The inspection measures whether the nursing home meets the minimum standard for a particular set of requirements. If a nursing home has no deficiencies, it means that it met the minimum standards at the time of the inspection. However, this information cannot be used to identify nursing homes that provide outstanding care.



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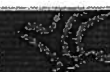
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Collecting and Updating Nursing Home Data

Data Sources and Collection

The data on this website describes nursing home characteristics, quality measures, inspection results, and nursing staff information.

The data come from 2 sources:

1. **CMS's Online Survey, Certification, and Reporting (OSCAR) database** - Includes the nursing home characteristics and health deficiencies issued during the three most recent state inspections and recent complaint investigations.

The survey inspection results are collected by the state survey agencies, who perform onsite visits to nursing homes. The inspections occur at least once during a 15-month period, or any time in between as a result of a complaint received by the state. The inspections ensure that the nursing home residents receive quality care and services in a safe and comfortable environment in accordance with rules established by CMS. Complaints may be reported and inspected during the year (outside of the 9-15 month survey cycle). Inspections about a complaint that result in the citation of a health deficiency are reported to CMS and included in this website. Sometimes the inspection finds a problem that the nursing home identified and corrected before the inspection occurred. The fact and the nature of these prior problems (deficiencies) may be included in this website.

The State survey agencies are then responsible for entering survey information into the OSCAR database and providing updates as needed. Every attempt is made to assure the accuracy and timeliness of this information; however, we advise interpreting this information cautiously and supplementing it with information from the ombudsman's office, the State survey agency, or other sources.

The information on the nursing homes' characteristics derived from OSCAR are prepared by each nursing home at the beginning of the regular State inspection. This information is reported by the nursing homes themselves. It is reviewed by nursing home inspectors, but not formally audited to ensure data accuracy. In addition, this information changes frequently as residents are discharged and admitted, or resident conditions change.

2. **National database known as the Minimum Data Set (MDS) Repository**

The data for the quality measures come from the MDS Repository. The MDS is collected on regular intervals for every resident in a Medicare or Medicaid certified nursing home. Information is collected on the resident's health, physical functioning, mental status, and general well-being. These data are used by the nursing home to access the needs and develop a plan of care unique to each resident.

Regulations require that a MDS assessment be performed at admission, quarterly, annually, and whenever the resident experiences a significant change in status. For residents in a Medicare Part A stay, the MDS is also used to determine the Medicare reimbursement rate. These assessments are performed on the 5th, 14th, 30th, 60th and 90th day of admission.

All of this data is reported by the nursing homes themselves. It is reviewed by nursing home inspectors, but not formally audited to ensure that it is accurate. Every attempt is made to assure the accuracy and timeliness of this information. However, this information changes frequently as residents are discharged and admitted, or resident conditions change. We advise interpreting this information cautiously and supplementing it with information from the Ombudsman's office, the State Survey Agency, or other sources.

Some MDS items used to calculate the quality measures consider the resident's condition during previous days prior to the assessment date. The following table provides these "observation" or "look back" time frames.

Quality Measures	MDS Observation Time Frame *
Long-Stay Measures	
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Given Influenza Vaccination During the Flu Season NEW!	October 1 thru March 31
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Were Assessed and Given Pneumococcal Vaccination NEW!	Looks back 5 years
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Whose Need for Help With Daily Activities Has Increased	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Have Moderate to Severe Pain	Looks back 7 days
Percent of High-Risk Long-Stay Residents Who Have Pressure Sores	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Low-Risk Long-Stay Residents Who Have Pressure Sores	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Were Physically Restrained	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who are More Depressed or Anxious	Looks back 30 days
Percent of Low-Risk Long-Stay Residents Who Lose Control of Their Bowels or Bladder	Looks back 14 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Have/Had a Catheter Inserted and Left in Their Bladder	Looks back 14 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Spent Most of Their Time in Bed or in a Chair	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Whose Ability to Move About in and Around Their Room Got Worse	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents with a Urinary Tract Infection	Looks back 30 days
Percent of Long-Stay Residents Who Lose Too Much Weight	Looks back 30 days
Short-Stay Measures	
Percent of Short-Stay Residents Given Influenza Vaccination During the Flu Season NEW!	October 1 thru March 31
Percent of Short-Stay Residents Who Were Assessed and Given Pneumococcal Vaccination NEW!	Looks back 5 years
Percent of Short-Stay Residents With Delirium	Looks back 7 days

Percent of Short-Stay Residents Who Had Moderate to Severe Pain	Looks back 7 days
Percent of Short-Stay Residents With Pressure Sores	Looks back 7 days

*When multiple MDS items with more than one "look back" timeframes are used to calculate the measure, this table displays the longest "look back" timeframe.

Data Updates

The OSCAR data contained on this website is updated on a monthly basis and the MDS data is updated quarterly. The OSCAR data on which these results are based may not necessarily reflect the results from the last survey completed, however. There may be a lag time between the date of the survey and the date that the survey results are entered into the OSCAR database. Each nursing home is also required by law to have the latest survey results on hand for public inspection. To obtain the most recent survey results, contact the State survey agency. The phone number for the state survey agency in your area can be found in the **Helpful Contacts** section of this website.

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